AZERBAIJAN TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY

REPORT

SDG 11

SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

CONTENT

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Abstract:

This report provides an overview of Azerbaijan Technical University's (AzTU) campus facilities, cultural initiatives, and sustainability practices. The university, prioritizing safety, limits public access to certain areas due to security concerns while actively engaging the community through exhibitions and cultural events. Student participation in national and international activities, coupled with the Institute of Logistics and Transport's focus on sustainable urban mobility, showcases AzTU's commitment to holistic education. The university's flexible work policies, affordable housing solutions, and a pedestrian-friendly campus contribute to a conducive learning and working environment. Despite not being officially certified, AzTU demonstrates a commitment to sustainability through initiatives like solar panels. The report concludes with insights into future plans, including anticipated cooperation with local authorities.

LEGAL BASE

Order of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan on approval of "Azerbaijan 2030: National Priorities for Socio-Economic Development"

https://president.az/en/articles/view/50474

https://e-qanun.az/framework/50014

INTRODUCTION:

Azerbaijan Technical University (AzTU) is committed to providing a conducive environment for learning, creativity, and collaboration while prioritizing the safety and well-being of its students, staff, and visitors. This report outlines various aspects of campus facilities, cultural activities, academic initiatives, and sustainability practices.

ACTIONS

- ✓ **Campus Access and Security:**
  - The university restricts public access to certain areas, including buildings, monuments, and natural heritage landscapes, due to security concerns.
  - The statue honoring national heroes on campus serves as a meaningful tribute but is not publicly accessible beyond the university grounds.
  - The library is currently undergoing reconstruction and will be open to the public upon completion. External access will be limited to technical and academically oriented readers.
- ✓ **Exhibitions and Cultural Events:**
  - AzTU organizes exhibitions, which are open to the public during specific events, fostering a connection with the community.
  - Regular cultural activities, such as concerts, painting exhibitions, and handicraft displays, enhance student leisure and promote national art.
  - Special events, including national holidays and competitions, celebrate Azerbaijani culture and showcase student talents.
- ✓ **Student Engagement and Youth Initiatives:**
  - The university supports various clubs, events, and projects organized by national youth organizations, promoting student engagement.
  - Students actively participate in national and international events, such as the International Culinary Festival, showcasing their talents and representing AzTU.

- ✓ **Transportation and Urban Mobility:**
  - The Institute of Logistics and Transport actively participates in developing plans for intra-city mobility and collaborates with other universities in the field.
  - Surveys and public debates are conducted to gather opinions on population movements, contributing to the development of sustainable transport plans.
- ✓ **Remote Work and Flexible Policies:**
  - The university promotes telecommuting and remote working, offering a condensed working week to reduce employee commuting.
  - This flexible approach enhances work-life balance for employees and aligns with modern work practices.
- ✓ **Affordable Housing Solutions:**
  - AzTU provides affordable housing options for both employees and students, recognizing the importance of accessible accommodation for a conducive learning and working environment.
- ✓ **Pedestrian-Friendly Campus:**
  - The university prioritizes pedestrian access on campus, establishing dedicated lanes for safe and convenient mobility, and promoting sustainability and inclusivity.
- ✓ **Cooperation with Local Authorities:**
  - While the university currently does not work closely with local authorities, there are plans to initiate cooperation in the future to address various campus-related issues.
- ✓ **Sustainability Initiatives:**
  - While not certified by external bodies, the university has implemented some sustainable features such as solar panels and wind energy panels, showcasing a commitment to environmental responsibility.

CONCLUSION:

Azerbaijan Technical University continues to evolve, balancing security concerns with a commitment to cultural, educational, and sustainable initiatives. The diverse range of activities and ongoing plans demonstrate AzTU's dedication to fostering a vibrant, secure, and inclusive campus community.

Figure 11.1. Key targets for SDG 11

FUTURE STEPS FOR BETTER PERFORMANCE

Enhancing the performance of Azerbaijan Technical University (AzTU) involves a multifaceted approach, addressing various aspects of campus life and organizational strategies. Here are some future steps that can be considered for better performance:

Collaboration with Local Authorities:

Initiate and strengthen collaborations with local authorities to address security concerns, infrastructure development, and community engagement. A proactive partnership can lead to shared resources and improved overall campus safety.

Certification of Sustainability Initiatives:

Pursue official certification from recognized sustainability standard organizations for the university's green initiatives. This could enhance the university's reputation and demonstrate a commitment to environmental responsibility.

Expansion of Public Access:

Consider phased approaches to expand public access to certain campus facilities, balancing security concerns with the desire to engage the community. Evaluate and implement measures that ensure safety while promoting inclusivity.

Feedback Mechanisms:

Establish and promote effective feedback mechanisms for students, faculty, and staff. Regular surveys and assessments can provide insights into areas that need improvement and help in making informed decisions for enhancing overall satisfaction and performance.

Enhanced Communication Strategies:

Implement effective communication strategies to keep students, faculty, and staff informed about campus developments, initiatives, and opportunities. Transparent communication fosters a sense of community and shared purpose.

Diversification of Cultural Activities:

Introduce a broader range of cultural activities to cater to diverse interests and

engage a wider audience. Collaborate with local artists, organizations, and institutions to bring a rich cultural experience to both the campus and the community.

Increased Student and Faculty Involvement:

Encourage and support student and faculty involvement in research, community projects, and international collaborations. This can contribute to academic excellence, foster innovation, and elevate the university's profile.

Regular Campus Infrastructure Assessments:

Conduct regular assessments of campus infrastructure to identify areas for improvement and ensure that facilities meet evolving academic and technological needs. Plan for sustainable development that aligns with modern educational requirements.

Continuous Professional Development:

Prioritize continuous professional development for faculty and staff. This includes staying abreast of the latest advancements in their respective fields, incorporating innovative teaching methods, and fostering a culture of lifelong learning.

Strategic Planning for Internationalization:

Develop a comprehensive strategic plan for internationalization, fostering global partnerships, exchange programs, and collaborative research initiatives. International exposure enhances the university's academic standing and provides valuable opportunities for students and faculty.
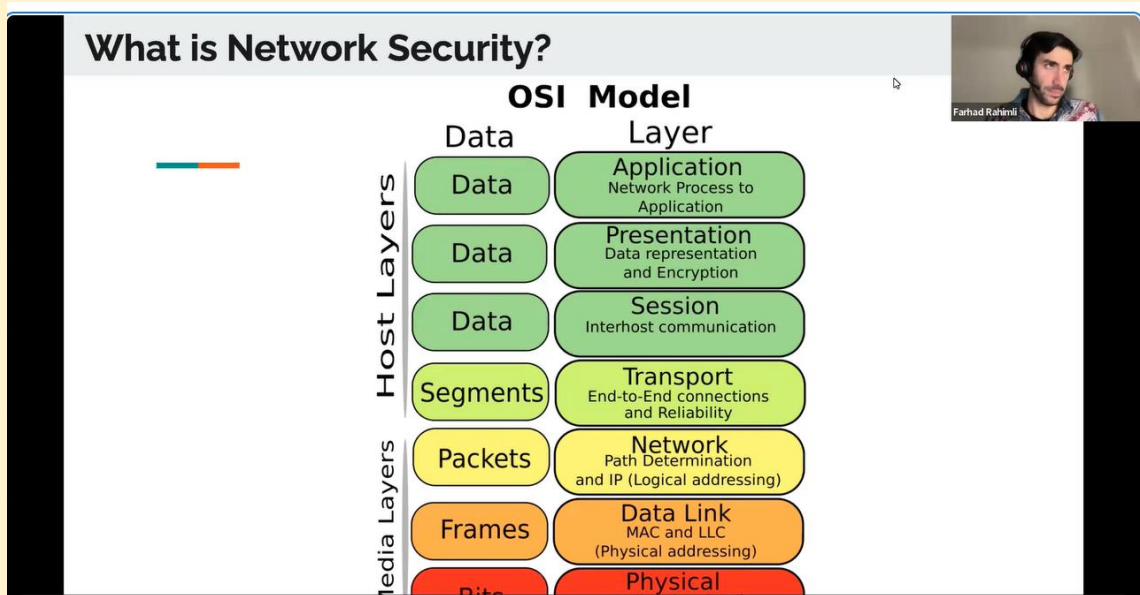
Adoption of Technological Innovations:

Embrace and integrate technological innovations into teaching, research, and administrative processes. This includes exploring virtual learning platforms, research tools, and administrative systems to improve efficiency and effectiveness.

By strategically implementing these future steps, Azerbaijan Technical University can continue to evolve, ensuring a dynamic, secure, and high-performance educational environment for all stakeholders.

SOME PHOTOS

1. **Photo from online classes**

2. **Photo from student dormitory and campus**

   https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vS_5SSULAic

3. Photo of wind and solar power
   https://www.aztu.edu.az/az/news/aztu-da-kulek-qurgulari-qurasdirilib-8326